



U.S. Department of Homeland  
Security

**United States Coast Guard**

## **LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS**

**District: 1 Week: 02/10**

### **TERMINATION OF LORAN-C**

**The U.S. Coast Guard will terminate U.S. LORAN-C signals on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

As a result of technological advancements during the last 20 years and the emergence of the U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS), LORAN-C is no longer required by the armed forces, the transportation sector or the nation's security interests, and is used by only a small segment of the population. President Barack Obama's fiscal year 2010 budget supported the termination of outdated systems and specifically cited the terrestrial-based North American LORAN-C system as such an example. The president did not seek funding for the LORAN-C system in fiscal year 2010. Termination was also supported through the enactment of the 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. The decision to terminate LORAN-C reflects the President's pledge to eliminate unnecessary federal programs. The Coast Guard strongly urges mariners currently using LORAN-C for navigation to shift to a GPS navigation system and become familiar with its operation as soon as possible. Mariners will not be able to rely upon LORAN-C for navigation as of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

LORAN-C was not established as, nor was it intended to be, a viable systemic backup for GPS. If a single, domestic national system to back up GPS is identified as being necessary, the Department of Homeland Security will complete an analysis of potential backups to GPS. The continued active operation of LORAN-C is not necessary to advance this evaluation.

**RHODE ISLAND – NARRAGANSETT BAY – SAKONNET RIVER –Bridge Construction** - Construction of the new Route 24 (Sakonnet River) Bridge at mile 12.2, across the Sakonnet River between Tiverton and Portsmouth, Rhode Island, has commenced and will continue until approximately **May 2011**. A temporary floating trestle system will be constructed across the waterway extending from the Portsmouth and Tiverton shorelines to the two main piers on each side of the navigation channel. A safe work zone has been established for construction activities to minimize risk to vessels transiting the area. The safe work zone begins, from the north, at the old railroad bridge and extends approximately 800' south of the old Route 24 (Sakonnet River) Bridge. The safe work zone will be delineated by white lighted buoys extending from each side of the channel to the shoreline. Three work barges will be located within the safe work zone: one 250 x 72 barge, two 150 x 50 barges. A temporary navigation channel has also been established to allow vessels to transit through the safe work zone. The temporary navigation channel is marked with green buoys (15A, 15B, & 15C) on the west side of the temporary channel, and red buoys (16A, 16B, & 16C) on the east side. Vessels transiting through the safe work zone must stay within the marked temporary channel and proceed at their slowest safe speed to minimize wake. The contractors, Cashman Equipment Corp and Cardi Corporation, workboats will be monitoring VHF channel 11 should you need to contact them. RIDOT's Project Engineer, Mr. Larry Bailey can be contacted at (401) 816-0991